

HB 2768 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/22/23

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Cramer, Hudson, McIntire, Neron, Nguyen H, Valderrama, Wright

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/1, 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to establish program to provide student inventors who develop concept or design as part of career and technical education (CTE) with coaching, mentorship, and assistance in developing concepts or designs for patent or copyright. Directs ODE to assist education service districts (ESDs) in entering intellectual property rights agreements with student inventors. Directs ODE to convene advisory board to implement program. Establishes Oregon Invents Partnership Fund to deposit funds received for use of students' concepts or designs under intellectual property agreements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost of patent process in Oregon
- Parent involvement in intellectual property rights agreements

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Career and technical education (CTE) programs are high school and postsecondary courses of study designed to align with business and industry skills and to provide a pathway to a postsecondary degree or certificate. According to [Oregon's CTE State Plan](#), last updated by the Oregon Department of Education in May 2022, over 150,000 K-12 students in Oregon participate in CTE annually.

Few innovation or intellectual property rights programs are directed toward K-12 students. One program for high school students is the Georgia Patent Assistance for STEM Students (PASS) program, launched in 2019 by the Georgia Intellectual Property Alliance and the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair (GSEF) at the University of Georgia, which offers 10 hours of legal assistance with patent application to the winner of the Young Inventor's Award at the GSEF.

Programs for student inventors in Oregon are primarily aimed at college students. InventOR, an annual competition sponsored by Portland State University's Center for Entrepreneurship, Business Oregon, the Oregon Lottery, and nonprofit partners, offers collegiate student teams \$2,500 grants to develop a prototype and compete for \$30,000 in prize money.

House Bill 2768 directs the Oregon Department of Education to establish a program to assist students in pursuing a patent or copyright for concepts or designs developed as part of career and technical education, to assist education service districts in entering into intellectual property rights agreements with such students, and to establish a fund to deposit revenue from the use of such rights.